



**Illinois Optimist
District Directory 2018-19**

Mission Statement

By providing hope and positive vision, Optimists bring out the best in youth, our communities and ourselves.

Vision Statement

Optimist International will be recognized worldwide as the premier volunteer organization that values all children and helps them to develop to their full potential.

The Purposes of Optimist International

- ✓ To develop optimism as a philosophy of life utilizing the tenets of the Optimist Creed;
- ✓ To promote an active interest in good government and civic affairs;
- ✓ To inspire respect for the law;
- ✓ To promote patriotism and work for international accord and friendship among all people;
- ✓ To aid and encourage the development of youth, in the belief that the giving of one's self in service to others will advance the well-being of humankind, community life and the world.

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Please send any updates to the Illinois Optimist Directory to Sandi Schmidt at schmidtsandi@gmail.com.

Optimism – The Perfect Fit

It's a great time to be an Optimist! As we celebrate the Centennial of Optimist International, each of us should take a moment to reflect on the successes of the past 100 years. Then we must turn quickly and look to our future, using the foundation of the past 100 years as the stepping stone for **Bringing out the Best into the Next Century**.

We'll be doing some fun things at our District conferences and convention this year to celebrate this big Optimist milestone, and I hope you'll be there to celebrate with us!

I've chosen **Optimism – the Perfect Fit** as our Illinois Optimist theme for this year. Each of us is a piece of the puzzle that makes our Optimist Club complete. Whether you are one of the edge pieces who holds things together or one of the colorful pieces that wants to be right in the middle of everything, you are all important to completing our puzzle. Just like puzzle pieces, you may need to try several places in your club before you find the right spot.

Every Optimist member and every Optimist Club is important in the lives of the children and in our communities. The needs vary in every community, and those needs keep growing. It's our goal and our responsibility as Optimists to help fill those needs. Let's all focus on working together to bring out the best in youth, our communities, and ourselves.

I'm excited to work with each of you and to make sure you find your perfect fit in your Optimist club's puzzle! Together, I know we can truly make a difference!



Yours in Optimism,
Sandi Schmidt
Illinois Optimist Governor 2018-19

Greetings, Fellow Optimists!

I'm deeply honored and truly thrilled to be teaming with you during our 2018-19 Optimist International Centennial Year! It is so exciting for us to have the opportunity to serve during this unique and important milestone of our 100th anniversary. We have the chance to celebrate our history, while we also convey our enthusiasm for our future. I believe that who we are and what we do as Optimists are needed now more than ever.

Our Centennial Theme is "Bringing Out the Best into the Next Century" – recognizing that this is not only about celebrating our past 100 years of service, but even more importantly, it's about the positive impact our Optimist Clubs continue to have today and going forward.

We have 4 simple goals for our year together:

1. Growth: Expand the impact of Optimist International through growth in members and clubs
2. Engagement / Training: Strengthen Optimist Clubs and members through effective involvement and leadership development
3. Marketing: Raise the profile of Optimist International and Optimist Clubs both internally and externally
4. Financial Strength: Ensure sound financial budget management (expenses and revenue) and reduce reliance on club / member dues to support priorities

My personal theme for the year is "Promise Yourself" – and I hope that resonates with each of us not only with our Optimist Creed, but with the commitment we each make to bring our own personal best to everything we do – to make things better for our clubs, our communities and the young people we serve.

During this year, I encourage all members to make a difference and earn the "Promise Yourself" award by sponsoring a new Optimist member, getting involved in at least one club project, and sharing your personal Optimist story / testimonial. Every Optimist Club should strive to be at least an Honor Club as that is simply a great tool to ensure our clubs are healthy, active, and strong. In this Centennial year, we have some very special opportunities for your extra efforts to be recognized, and I encourage you to strive to be a "Centennial Distinguished Club" and for individuals who start new Optimist Clubs to be a "Centennial Builder of Excellence." I would love to be able to recognize your efforts and positive impact!

Thank you for what each of you do to make a difference in your own corner of the world. Your positive impact is likely far greater than you may ever know and deeply appreciated. This year, let's work together to "Bring Out the Best into the Next Century!"

Promise Yourself—



Optimist International President



Dear Optimist Friends,

The 2018-19 Optimist Year is about celebrating our Optimist International organization and its century of service to others. What an honor and a privilege it is for me to serve as your Middle America Region Vice-President during this Centennial Year! Giving to your communities impacts so many. Your Optimism shines through when assisting those in need. In this world of numerous challenges, there is an urgency to nurture our youth and all who need help. **YOU** and your club have been there to do so.

Optimists also Bring out the Best in each other. Friendships are made at Club, Zone or District events. We become 'family' very quickly. Motivation and encouragement are found in our fellowship. Please share your passion for service: invite and involve others with your club. Let your community know what this 100 year organization has done and continues to do.

Along with our achievement of a Century of Service, I would like to recognize **YOU!** I appreciate **YOU** dedicating time, and often your treasure, to our great organization and its purpose. Governor Sandi, her team and I are always *here to assist you* with any question or concern. Please do not hesitate to call! Our goal is to *help you be successful* in achieving your goals.

Thank **YOU**, Optimists, for all you've done and all we will accomplish this year. I intend to **CELEBRATE YOU**, the member- your work and your impact- as we all **CELEBRATE 100!**

Gerri Barnett

Optimist International
Middle America Region
Vice-President 2018-19



Illinois Optimist Conferences and Convention

2018-2019

Radisson Hotel Normal

8 Traders Circle
Normal, IL 61761
309-862-0101

October 5-6, 2018

Optimist International President's Visit
Kicking off the Optimist Centennial Celebration
#Optimist100, training

January 25-26, 2019

Training, Celebrating our Successes

April 12-13, 2019

Scholarship Contests - Oratorical, CCDHH, Essay
Poster Contest, election of Lt. Governors, training

August 2-4, 2019

Convention – training, election of Governor-Elect
Optimist Memorial Service
Governor's Banquet

Leadership – Illinois Optimist and Optimist International

Illinois Governor

Sandi Schmidt

3754 47th Street Drive
Moline, IL 61265
C 309-236-1342
schmidtsandi@gmail.com

Illinois Governor-Elect

William J (Bill) Wagner

36 Willow Creek
Highland, IL 62249
C 618-401-0681
H 618-651-1322
wwagner6@charter.net

District Secretary-Treasurer

Charles C. Mayhew

423 South Douglas Ave
Belleville, IL 62220
C 618-806-5145
charles.c.mayhew01@gmail.com

Immediate Past Governor

John Del Re

649 E Eisenhower Ave
Palatine, IL 60074
C 847-942-2897
B 847-824-7050
johndelre@sbcglobal.net

Past Governor

Ruth Del Re

649 E Eisenhower Ave
Palatine, IL 60074
C 847-571-8985
B 847-824-7050
ruthdelre@sbcglobal.net

Optimist International President

Rebecca Butler Mona (Mike)

5718 Candlelight Court
West Des Moines, IA 50266
C 515-556-3598
H 515-223-4739
rebeccabutlermona@gmail.com

Middle America Vice President

Gerri Barnett (Scott)

1527 Avenue C
Fort Madison, IA 52677
C 319-470-0417
B 319-376-2754
jooiful@gmail.com

OI Executive Director

Benny Ellerbe (Carol)

4494 Lindell Blvd
St. Louis, MO 63108
B 314-371-6000
B 800-500-8130
ellerbeb@optimist.org

Shumsky – Optimist Supplies

www.shumskyideas.com/optimist

B 877-678-2582
optimist@shumsky.com

Illinois Optimist Important Dates & Deadlines

Date		Club	Lt. Gov
Sep-Oct	Planning conference for 2018-19 year	X	X
10/1/18	Beginning of 2018-19 Optimist year		
Oct 2018	District and International dues payment due	X	
10/5-10/6/18	Fall Conference and Optimist International President's Visit – Normal, IL	X	X
10/24/18	Deadline for District Bulletin submissions	X	X
12/31/18	Club Roster Adjustments due	X	
Jan 2019	District and International dues payment due	X	
1/2/19	OI Foundation Grant Applications available		
1/25-1/26/19	Winter Conference – Normal, IL	X	X
2/7/19	Deadline for District Bulletin submissions	X	X
2/15/19	Form 990 due to IRS	X	
2/28/19	Essays due to District Chairperson	X	
3/2/19	Club Oratorical contests complete	X	
3/16/19	Zone Oratorical contests complete		X
3/30/19	Regional Oratorical contests complete		
3/31/19	Club Roster Adjustments due	X	
Apr 2019	District and International dues payment due	X	
Apr-May 2019	Lt. Governor official club visits – all clubs in zone	X	X
4/12-4/13/19	Spring Conference – Normal, IL	X	X
4/13/19	District Scholarship Contests – Oratorical, CCDHH		
4/13/19	District Poster Contest		
4/30/19	Election of club officers complete	X	
5/1/19	Early registration for OI Convention ends		
5/21/19	Hotel reservations for OI Convention ends		
5/1-5/31/19	Voting for Optimist International leadership	X	
5/15/19	Deadline for District Bulletin submissions	X	X
5/15/19	District Oratorical winners submitted to OI		
5/20/19	Club Officer Elect Report due to OI	X	X
6/10-6/13/19	Illinois District OIJGC Qualifier – Decatur, IL	X	X
6/25/19	Camp Coco	X	X
Jun 2019	OI Oratorical World Competition – St. Louis, MO		
6/30/19	Club Roster Adjustments due	X	
6/30-7/3/19	Optimist International Convention – Louisville, KY	X	X
Jul 2019	District and International dues payments due	X	
8/2-8/4/19	Illinois Optimist Convention – Normal, IL	X	X
8/16/19	Deadline for District Bulletin submissions	X	X
9/1/19	Begin next year's scholarship contest preparations with schools – Oratorical, CCDHH, essay	X	
9/30/19	Club Roster Adjustments due	X	
9/30/19	Optimist International Foundation donations due	X	
9/30/19	President's Pride report due	X	X

Illinois Optimist Committee Chairs

Bulletin Editor

Michael Taylor
1031 Underwood Avenue
Durant, IA 52747
C 309-373-2220
michaeldemosstaylor@yahoo.com

Candidate Qualifications

Roger Simonson
725 Juneberry Road
Riverwoods, IL 60015
C 847-910-2130
H 847-945-7785
rksimonson@hotmail.com

CCDHH Co-Chairs

Angela Flaherty
634 Pearce's Ford
Oswego, IL 60543
C 630-201-4305
dancewithflair6@gmail.com

Kristen Sanders
466 Sudbury Circle
Oswego, IL 60543
C 630-292-4797
kriscot@comcast.net

Centennial Celebration

Sharon Hammer
210 12th Avenue
Sterling, IL 61081
C 815-499-8899
shammer1946@gmail.com

Childhood Cancer

James Christopher Smith
2608 Hazelnut Drive
Springfield, IL 62702
C 217-341-4350
H 217-546-2016
papaguy1@comcast.net

Club Fitness Advisor

Grace E Mitchell
3210 Edward Hoffman Drive
Champaign, IL 61822
C 217-778-8742
H 217-355-0756
B 217-607-0546
mitchellgrace7@gmail.com

Conferences/Convention

Martin C Schmidt
3754 47th Street Drive
Moline, IL 61265
C 309-236-2337
schmidtmartinc@gmail.com

District Convention

William J Wagner
36 Willow Creek
Highland, IL 62249
C 618-401-0681
H 618-651-1322
wwagner6@charter.net

District Directory

Sandi Schmidt
3754 47th Street Drive
Moline, IL 61265
C 309-236-1342
schmidtsandi@gmail.com

District Foundation Rep

Ron Elvin
105 Linden Drive
Oswego, IL 60543
C 630-664-4520
B 630-554-5700
elvinmanor@sbcglobal.net

Illinois Optimist Committee Chairs

Essay Contest

Connie N Minnes
3037 Rutherford Dr
Urbana, IL 61802
C 217-417-2734
mcminnes@sbcglobal.net

Finance

Bill Powell
129 Oaklawn Ave
Oswego, IL 60543
C 630-347-2798
H 630-554-2798
billmar444@aol.com

Hospitality

JB Culbertson
5512 E Marquette
Chillicothe, IL 61523
C 309-472-3418
janetculbertson@yahoo.com

Leadership Development

James Patrick Schmidt
1828 36th Street
Moline, IL 61265
C 309-236-2843
jamespatrickschmidt@gmail.com

Membership

William J Wagner
36 Willow Creek
Highland, IL 62249
C 618-401-0681
H 618-651-1322
wwagner6@charter.net

New Club Building

Martin C Schmidt
3754 47th Street Drive
Moline, IL 61265
C 309-236-2337
schmidtmartinc@gmail.com

OI Convention Ambassador

Harold Olsen
524 Stange
Springfield, IL 62704
C 217-415-2424
H 217-546-4443
h.olsen@att.net

OIJGC

Terry L Wright
505 S Main St
Taylorville, IL 62568
C 217-827-5978
terry@oijgc.org

Oratorical Contest

Sam Meier
2112 E 41st Street
Sterling, IL 61081
C 815-213-0315
B 815-535-0776
sam.meier@edwardjones.com

Parliamentarian

Harold Olsen
524 Stange
Springfield, IL 62704
C 217-415-2424
H 217-546-4443
h.olsen@att.net

Illinois Optimist Committee Chairs

Personal Growth

Marlene Wyld
70 Waterbury Circle
Oswego, IL 60543
C 630-642-0223
mwyld40@yahoo.com

Photographer

Roger Simonson
725 Juneberry Road
Riverwoods, IL 60015
C 847-910-2130
H 847-945-7785
rksimonson@hotmail.com

Policy Review

Eric Jebsen
514 Bridle Ln
Wheaton, IL 60187
C 630-740-2282
ericjbsn@sbcglobal.net

Poster Contest

Carol Schlitt
624 Brook Stone Court
Freeburg, IL 62243
C 618-977-7787
carolschlitt@charter.net

Sergeant at Arms

John E Ohnemus
2831 Harrison St
Quincy, IL 62301
C 217-577-9986
H 217-228-9616
johnnemus6178@gmail.com

Social Media

Becky Pollock
1012 Greenleaf Ave, Apt 3
Wilmette, IL 60091
C 317-403-2236
becky.pollock@ysgn.org

Webmaster

Adam Vocks
220 W Adams Street
Taylorville, IL 62568
C 217-824-6398
adam.vocks@cticomputers.com

ZONE 1

Lt. Governor Edward J Welther Sr
1842 Fox Run Drive, Unit A
Elk Grove Village, IL 60007
C 847-489-5216
chef_pina@yahoo.com

COUSINS EMPOWERED 12380

Chartered 3/31/2019

Online meetings

President
Raimonda O Pierce
6700 S Crandon #12A
Chicago, IL 60649
C 773-454-8148
55bigdreams@gmail.com

Secretary-Treasurer
David Jenkins
1355 W 108th Place
Chicago, IL 60643
C 773-895-7158
davidjenkinsphoto@yahoo.com

DEERFIELD 12083

Chartered 6/13/1972

1st Tuesday at 7:00 pm, various locations; 2nd & 3rd Tuesday at 11:30 am, Egg Shell Cafe

President
Ron Schwartz
1260 Greenwood Ave
Deerfield, IL 60015
C 312-320-4004
H 847-940-8455
ronschwartz@gmail.com

Secretary-Treasurer
Judy L Geuder
1654 Pear Tree Road
Deerfield, IL 60015
C 847-508-0427
judygeuder@gmail.com

DES PLAINES 12084

Chartered 11/18/1954

1st Thursday at 6:30 pm, Silver Stallion; 3rd Thursday at 6:30 pm, St Martin's Church

President
Edward J Welther Sr
1842 Fox Run Dr
Unit A
Elk Grove Village, IL 60007
C 847-489-5216
chef_pina@yahoo.com

Secretary
Jennifer L Boys
915 N York, Unit 206
Elmhurst, IL 60126
C 847-962-6974
H 630-279-3397
jboys@dpparks.org

Treasurer
Toby W Gilbert
1440 Wicke Ave
Des Plaines, IL 60018
C 847-867-6775
H 847-390-9776
tobygilbert58@gmail.com

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ZONE 1 (continued)

GLENVIEW 12154

Chartered 1/31/1961

1st Tuesday at 12:00 noon, Hackneys on Lake Ave

President	Secretary	Treasurer
Ronald P Cassidy Jr	Maureen McPeck	Marguerite Cole
32 N Wildwood Dr	1315 Hollywood Ave	108 Lincoln St
Prospect Heights, IL 60070	Glenview, IL 60025	Glenview, IL 60025
C 847-343-4930	C 847-975-1377	C 847-340-1990
B 224-521-2206	H 847-729-6768	mmcole2719@gmail.com
ron.cassidy@glenviewparks.org	B 847-975-1377	
	maureen.mcpeek	
	@lynchmcpeekwm.com	

NILES 12246

Chartered 2/4/1986

2nd Thursday at 6:30 pm, Niles Police Station

President	Secretary	Treasurer
John C Jekot	Jerry Szczepanski	Richard E Mangold
7335 W Lee St	6851 W Dobson	8287 N Merrill St
Niles, IL 60714	Niles, IL 60714	Niles, IL 60714
C 847-651-7624	H 847-966-6580	C 847-302-3718
B 847-297-4183	skiniles@yahoo.com	H 847-698-2657
jjekot@att.net		rem8287@aol.com

OAK PARK 12264

Chartered 5/31/1924

1st & 3rd Tuesday at 12:00 noon, meets at various restaurants – call for location

President	Secretary	Treasurer
Allan R Hippensteel	Joan Hutchinson	Patricia Leavy
901 S Plymouth Ct, Apt 1005	215 Circle Ave	331 N Grove
Chicago, IL 60605	Forest Park, IL 60130	Oak Park, IL 60302
H 312-939-8888	H 702-689-0603	H 708-386-3178
davis-steel@sbcglobal.net	joanhutch@aol.com	patleavy@att.net

WILMETTE LUNCH 12378

Chartered 2/17/2010

Every Tuesday at 12:00 noon, Wilmette Golf Course

President	Secretary	Treasurer
Ben Wozney	Ron Porte	Steve Santacruz
728 Arbor Lane	128 Laurel Ave	108 Hollywood Ct
Glenview, IL 60025	Wilmette, IL 60091	Wilmette, IL 60091
C 847-875-5052	C 847-910-2900	C 847-220-7552
Bwozney70@gmail.com	H 847-251-7143	B 847-868-9620
	rdporte@gmail.com	jsteve@schoolhouse4math.com

ZONE 2

Lt. Governor Kenneth Lampley
116 S Plum Street
Princeton, IL 61356
C 815-878-1022
W 815-872-1350
kosmiccharlie69@yahoo.com

MENDOTA 12222

Chartered 6/24/1982

2nd & 4th Tuesday at 7:00 pm, Mendota VFW Post

President	Secretary	Treasurer
Matt Faber	Evan Wixom	Dave Barkman
33761 US Hwy 34	1006 Monroe Street	150 E US Hwy 34
Lamoille, IL 61330	Mendota, IL 61342	Mendota, IL 61342
H 815-910-6030	C 815-503-0558	H 815-538-7051
fabes15@hotmail.com	ewixom@mail.bradley.edu	barkman6@yahoo.com

OSWEGO-OSWEGOLAND 12265

Chartered 3/10/1977

2nd & 4th Wednesday at 7:00 pm, Tap House Grill

President	Secretary	Treasurer
Jim Richter	Prudence Marose	Billy Burnette
424 Arboretum Way	725 Bloomfield Lane	608 Northgate Drive
Oswego, IL 60543	Aurora, IL 60504	Oswego, IL 60543
H 630-660-2260	H 630-235-9673	H 815-301-7116
jimrichter35@gmail.com	msprudie@aol.com	B 630-801-7886
		billyburnette@hotmail.com

PRINCETON 12286

Chartered 1/7/1967

1st Tuesday at 6:00 pm, Kramer's Restaurant; 3rd Tuesday at 6:00 pm, Princeton Public Library

President	Secretary	Treasurer
Jackie Davis	Gary S Patterson	Robert C Byrne
9 S Homer	715 N Linn	730 5 th Ave Drive
Princeton, IL 61356	Princeton, IL 61356	Princeton, IL 61356
H 815-972-7201	H 815-875-3767	H 815-878-3871
jmd70ths@yahoo.com	garypatt@hotmail.com	byr37@hotmail.com

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ZONE 2 (continued)

ROCK FALLS 12302

Chartered 4/29/1947

2nd & 4th Monday at 6:00 pm, Triple P's Barbeque

President

Kelly Keaschall
1319 Quail Court
Rock Falls, IL 61071
H 815-626-9159
B 815-625-4546
kellykeaschall@unitedanh.com

Secretary

John L Hoffmiller
1209 Sixth Avenue
Rock Falls, IL 61071
H 815-626-1028
mariannehoffmiller@gmail.com

Treasurer

Mike Wolber
206 11th Avenue
Rock Falls, IL 61071
H 815-716-0436
mikeandsheila@comcast.net

STERLING 12328

Chartered 4/19/1967

2nd & 4th Thursday at 6:30 pm, Wagon Wheel Restaurant

President

Sharon Hammer
210 12th Avenue
Sterling, IL 61081
C 815-499-8899
shammer1946@gmail.com

Secretary

Mark Sedig
1706 39th Avenue
Sterling, IL 61081
C 815-590-6362
H 815-626-5514
marksedig72@hotmail.com

Treasurer

James C Hammer
210 12th Avenue
Sterling, IL 61081
C 815-590-0139
jshammer1@comcast.net

ZONE 3

Lt. Governor David Leibovitz
209 7th Street
Silvis, IL 61282
C 309-737-4271
H 309-755-0847
dleibo80@hotmail.com

MOLINE BREAKFAST 12030

Chartered 4/22/1959

Every Wednesday at 7:30 am, Windmill Family Restaurant (East Moline)

President	Secretary	Treasurer
Nick Maro	Thomas G Reagan	Sandi Schmidt
2351 29 th Ave Ct Dr	1802 55 th Street	3754 47 th Street Drive
Moline, IL 61265	Moline, IL 61265	Moline, IL 61265
C 309-235-5576	C 309-235-8653	C 309-236-1342
antiquer47@aol.com	tr3077@me.com	schmidtsandi@gmail.com

MILAN 12224

Chartered 4/19/1967

2nd Wednesday at 6:00 pm, Milan American Legion

President	Secretary	Treasurer
Tom D Brown	Tracy Brigger	Betty Just
PO Box 522	1620 35 th Street	1620 35 th Street
Milan, IL 61264	Rock Island, IL 61201	Rock Island, IL 61201
C 309-738-1354	C 309-732-6623	C 309-631-7041
B 309-797-3361	sentrypooltracy@yahoo.com	bettyj@qcaa.com
brownt@sprelec.com		

SILVIS 12322

Chartered 1/25/1961

2nd & 4th Wednesday at 6:00 pm, Slugger's Pizza

President	Secretary-Treasurer
James Patrick Schmidt	Dave Emerick
1828 36 th Street	c/o Blackhawk Bank & Trust
Moline, IL 61265	1100 1 st Avenue
C 309-236-2843	Silvis, IL 61282
jamespatrickschmidt@gmail.com	C 309-236-1873
	H 309-788-5044
	B 309-752-1200
	demerick@choosethechief.com

ZONE 4

Lt. Governor JB Culbertson
5512 E Marquette
Chillicothe, IL 61523
C 309-472-3418
janetculbertson@yahoo.com

CHILLICOTHE 12065

Chartered 5/22/1985

1st & 3rd Saturday at 8:00 am, Grecian Garden Restaurant

President	Secretary	Treasurer
Joyce E Close	Carol J Gelling	Mary Jo Moore
14401 N Wayne Road	15819 N 6 th Street	3204 E Cedar Hills Drive
Chillicothe, IL 61523	Chillicothe, IL 61523	Chillicothe, IL 61523
C 248-709-7547	H 309-231-5685	C 309-253-0728
strblond47@hotmail.com	ajglpn67@gmail.com	H 309-579-2626
		mjmoore59@outlook.com

DELAVAN 12085

Chartered 5/1/1982

2nd Monday at 7:00 pm, Delavan American Legion Post #382

President	Secretary	Treasurer
Sharon Hultquist	Chris J Schertz	Christy Hart
104 Pieper Circle	106 Heritage Lane	405 West Third St
Delavan, IL 61734	Delavan, IL 61734	Delavan, IL 61734
sydpete@msn.com	C 309-620-1679	H 309-244-8424
	cjschertz@gmail.com	hart-e@sbcglobal.net

GLASFORD 12150

Chartered 8/16/1956

2nd Wednesday at 7:00 pm, Optimist club house on Park Street

President	Secretary-Treasurer
Marc P Bohannon	Robert A Meyer
PO Box 23	PO Box 500
Glasford, IL 61533	Glasford, IL 61533
H 309-360-4326	H 309-565-7353
cubmaster56@glastel.net	B 309-389-2551
	rameyer@glasfordbank.com

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ZONE 4 (continued)

HAVANA 12176

Chartered 10/1/1946

2nd & 4th Wednesday at 6:00 pm, The Paddlewheel

President

Kenneth R Walker
13020 E CR 1220N
Havana, IL 62644

Secretary-Treasurer

Daniel Whitsitt
712 E Adams St
Havana, IL 62644
whitsittde@gmail.com

LEWISTOWN 12188

Chartered 5/1/1952

1st & 3rd Thursday at 7:00 pm, Country Side Diner

President

Rebecca Humphrey
166 S State St
PO Box 171
Liverpool, IL 61543
H 309-219-2495
B 309-547-2501
ctygalatheart@yahoo.com

Secretary

Sandy Burget
811 N Cedar St
Lewistown, IL 61542
H 309-547-3677
shipshape@sybertech.net

Treasurer

James Burch
1023 N Main St
Lewistown, IL 61542
H 309-547-3904
B 309-547-2343
jlnburch@yahoo.com

ST DAVID 12318

Chartered 6/16/1953

2nd Wednesday at 6:00 pm, St David Optimist Club

President

Jeffrey L Braden
405 N Maple
Lewistown, IL 61542
C 309-231-1801
H 309-547-2028
jjobservice@ sbcglobal.net

Secretary

Lisa S Pasley
514 4th St
St David, IL 61563
C 309-226-3503

Treasurer

Jeffrey L Braden
405 N Maple
Lewistown, IL 61542
C 309-231-1801
H 309-547-2028
jjobservice@ sbcglobal.net

ZONE 5

Lt. Governor Tori Exum
PO Box 978
Urbana, IL 61803
C 217-390-3972
torionnae@gmail.com

CHAMPAIGN-URBANA 12064

Chartered 6/14/1948

3rd Thursday at 6:00 pm, Perkins on University

President Mason R Minnes 3037 Rutherford Drive Urbana, IL 61802 C 217-778-7736 mason.minnes@gmail.com	Secretary Connie N Minnes 3037 Rutherford Drive Urbana, IL 61802 C 217-417-2734 mcminnes@sbcglobal.net	Treasurer Cynthia Harvey 1203 S Cottage Grove Ave Urbana, IL 61801 H 217-344-2614 cmharvey1@yahoo.com
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MARSHALL CLARK COUNTY 12214

Chartered 10/29/1992

2nd & 4th Wednesday at 12:30 pm, Marshall VFW

President Lisa R Richey 14998 N Bass Lake W Marshall, IL 62441 C 812-249-5785 lisa.richey2013@gmail.com	Secretary Marilyn R Lueken 314 Pine Street Marshall, IL 62441 C 217-822-5702 H 217-826-5992 B 217-826-2392 marilynluken@gmail.com	Treasurer Donna A Barth 15756 N Oak Crest Rd Marshall, IL 62441 C 217-822-2346 H 217-826-2119 B 765-828-2935 dbarth1977@gmail.com
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QUINCY BREAKFAST 12038

Chartered 2/10/1964

Every Tuesday at 6:45 am, KROC Center

President Kenneth Klauser 4005 Columbus Rd Quincy, IL 62305 H 217-223-7182 klauser46@yahoo.com	Secretary C.E. Archer 1500 Stone Creek Dr Quincy, IL 62305 C 217-592-6096 carcher@adams.net	Treasurer Glen L Ebbing 1400 Huntleigh Rd Quincy, IL 62305 C 217-242-7911 B 217-224-3920 gebbing53@gmail.com
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ZONE 5 (continued)

SPRINGFIELD BREAKFAST 12046

Chartered 3/24/1964

Every Friday at 7:00 am, Peace Lutheran Church

President	Secretary	Treasurer
Mark R Depue	Richard McLane	Randall F Witter
613 Catskill Drive	1125 Crescent Lane	2010 Willemoore
Springfield, IL 62711	Springfield, IL 62704	Springfield, IL 62704
H 217-698-7661	H 217-546-5021	H 217-787-2010
depuemr@outlook.com	dmcl4444@gmail.com	B 217-789-6252
		randy@cook-witter.com

SPRINGFIELD LUNCHEON 12200

Chartered 3/31/1958

2nd Monday at 11:45 am, 3rd Monday at 6:00 pm, MCL Restaurant

President	Secretary	Treasurer
Joyce Stoelting	Daniel Greer	Harold Olsen
1809 Tremont Dr	2132 Cherry Road	524 Stange
Springfield, IL 62711	Springfield, IL 62704	Springfield, IL 62704
C 217-971-9473	H 217-546-3690	C 217-415-2424
H 217-787-4929	B 217-744-1000	H 217-546-4443
stoelting.joyce@mhsil.com	dgreerlaw@sbcglobal.net	h.olsen@att.net

TAYLORVILLE 12334

Chartered 6/15/1965

Every Thursday at 7:00 am, Taylorville Memorial Hospital Auditorium

President	Secretary-Treasurer
Steve Switzer	James E Adcock
412 E Heights Ave	2347 East 1300 North Rd
Taylorville, IL 62568	Assumption, IL 62510
C 217-827-7859	C 217-820-9323
sswitzer@cbctaylorville.com	jadcock@bankpbt.com

ZONE 6

Lt. Governor Carol Schlitt
624 Brook Stone Court
Freeburg, IL 62243
C 618-977-7787
carolschlitt@charter.net

BELLEVILLE 12016

Chartered 9/25/1923

Every Tuesday at 12:00 noon, Bellecourt Place

President Brenda Fedak 625 Springwood Dr Belleville, IL 62220 C 618-558-7086 H 618-233-1213 bfedak9@gmail.com	Secretary Charles C Mayhew 423 South Douglas Ave Belleville, IL 62220 C 618-806-5145 charles.c.mayhew01@gmail.com	Treasurer Theresa J Seipp 1306 E 3 rd Street O'Fallon, IL 62269 H 618-698-0693 B 618-355-4481 tseipp54@yahoo.com
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BELLEVILLE WESTSIDE 12354

Chartered 5/15/1952

Every Thursday at 12:00 noon, Olypika Restaurant

President Carol Reuter 216 Fournie Lane Swansea, IL 62226 C 618-830-9900 carolreuter@carolreuter.com	Secretary-Treasurer Debbie Rockwell 423 Arapaho Belleville, IL 62220 H 618-234-3342 B 618-239-9000 rockwell@fcbbanks.com
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FREEBURG 12120

Chartered 9/29/1988

1st & 3rd Thursday at 6:30 pm, Freeburg Library

President Rita V Baker 358 Sleeping Indian Dr Freeburg, IL 62243 C 618-719-7779 H 618-539-3107 ritavbaker@yahoo.com	Secretary Marilyn A Smithson 2502 Sweet Birch Ln New Athens, IL 62264 C 618-691-8977 H 618-475-3727 glausma@htc.net	Treasurer Karen R Nash 2 Sunset Drive Apt 4 Freeburg, IL 62243 H 618-539-5438 krm229cat@aol.com
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ZONE 6 (continued)

MILLSTADT 12227

Chartered 4/28/1988

1st & 3rd Thursday at 7:00 pm, Quail Club

President	Secretary	Treasurer
Kyle Dohrman	Marie Lewis	Debra S Curtis
40 Landau	22 Kaiserstrasse	PO Box 331
Millstadt, IL 62260	Millstadt, IL 62260	Millstadt, IL 62260
C 618-779-5296	H 618-830-8325	B 618-476-3334
kyle.dohrman@gmail.com	melewis19@hotmail.com	dcurtis@fnbwaterloo.com

O'FALLON 12373

Chartered 9/26/2002

1st & 3rd Tuesday at 6:00 pm, Gia's Pizza

President	Secretary-Treasurer
Connie Pellock	Virginia R Stark
7 Sunrise Ct	159 Fieldstone Drive
Highland, IL 62249	Belleville, IL 62221
H 618-654-5759	H 618-233-8522
conniepellock@gmail.com	ginnieb-jcp@att.net

SMITHTON 12369

Chartered 6/30/1999

1st & 3rd Tuesday at 5:30 pm, Janice's Country Kitchen

President	Secretary-Treasurer
Paul Obernuefemann	Cathleen Obernuefemann
615 S Hickory	615 S Hickory
Smithton, IL 62285	Smithton, IL 62285
B 618-398-7575	H 618-234-0643
paul@wisserhr.com	cobernuefemann@marykay.com

WATERLOO 12346

Chartered 3/29/1954

2nd & 4th Thursday at 6:30 pm, JVS Bar & Grill

President	Secretary	Treasurer
Jason R Huch	Shelby R Mathes Jr	Quinn Rodenberg
114 Osterhage Unit #1	6108 Red Bird Lane	1019 Driftwood Lane
Waterloo, IL 62298	Waterloo, IL 62298	Waterloo, IL 62298
C 618-410-0612	H 618-939-1748	H 618-458-7742
jasonhuch@yahoo.com	smrk2000@htc.net	qrody18@hotmail.com

ZONE 7

Lt. Governor Corky Helms
3100 Turkey Hill Lane
Belleville, IL 62221
H 618-233-8364
4anvil@att.net

BREESE 12021

Chartered 3/27/1984

2nd Tuesday at 7:30 pm, KC Hall

President
Eric Johnson
9930 Liberty Ct
Breese, IL 62230
C 618-791-0727
breeseoptimist@gmail.com

Secretary-Treasurer
Dale Detmer
10750 Nobs Rd
Breese, IL 62230
ddetmer@breese.org

CARLYLE 12058

Chartered 4/3/1986

1st Wednesday at 7:00 pm, Carlyle VFW Hall

President
Ron Huels
19402 Sand Ridge Rd
Carlyle, IL 62231

Secretary-Treasurer
Gary Renschen
990 11th
Carlyle, IL 62231
H 618-594-4431
garyrenschen@charter.net

NASHVILLE 12245

Chartered 3/21/1991

No set meeting day or time, Buretta's Bar and Grill

President
Randy Habbe
18095 Whitetail Run
Nashville, IL 62263
C 618-713-7954
H 618-327-8898
randyhabbe@hotmail.com

Secretary
Sara Kollbaum
17761 Lark Rd
Nashville, IL 62263
C 618-599-0121
skollbau@nashville-k12.org

Treasurer
Sara Habbe
18095 Whitetail Run
Nashville, IL 62263
C 618-521-6222
H 618-327-3161
sarahabbe@hotmail.com

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ZONE 7 (continued)

PINCKNEYVILLE 12282

Chartered 2/27/1969

2nd & 4th Thursday at 6:30 pm, Grecian Steakhouse, Club Building

President

Jeff Miller

801 Queens Way

Pinckneyville, IL 62274

H 618-357-9007

millersgirls@frontier.net

Secretary-Treasurer

Brad Hirte

306 Treasure Lane

Pinckneyville, IL 62274

C 618-210-1066

bradhirte@yahoo.com

ZONE 8

Lt. Governor Craig Rathgeb
816 Seiler Road
Godfrey, IL 62035
C 618-410-6474
H 618-466-9428
crathgeb@charter.net

ALTON AREA 12000

Chartered 3/11/1946

2nd Tuesday at 6:30 pm, Johnsons Corner

President	Secretary	Treasurer
JoAnne Curvey	Jody Meggos	Laura Munson-Dewein
1124 Taylor Avenue	2613 Dennis Dr	5307 Cedar Creek Ct
Godfrey, IL 62035	Alton, IL 62002	Godfrey, IL 62035
C 618-972-1809	jmeggos@altonschoools.org	deweinmunson@gmail.com
jcurvey@altonschoools.org		

GRANITE CITY 12164

Chartered 4/25/1929

Every Thursday at 12:00 noon, Apple Tree Family Restaurant

President	Secretary-Treasurer
Paul H Hellrich	Karen L Gambichler
3921 Dorothy Ct	#35 Rickhaven Drive
Granite City, IL 62040	Collinsville, IL 62234
C 618-407-3011	C 618-304-9210
phhellrich@yahoo.com	H 618-667-2966
	korrgambi@aol.com

GREENVILLE 12168

Chartered 9/29/1990

2nd & 4th Thursday at 7:00 pm, Greenville Country Club

President	Secretary	Treasurer
Larry Kleiner	Ruth Wise	Elaine Zitta
850 Old Highway 127	1152 Prairie Road	445 Campground Trail
Greenville, IL 62246	Greenville, IL 62246	Greenville, IL 62246
C 217-827-3468	C 256-509-6110	C 618-978-1655
lkleiner@wisperhome.com	H 618-664-0888	zittae5@gmail.com
	rw92050@yahoo.com	

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ZONE 8 (continued)

HIGHLAND 12180

Chartered 12/15/1948

1st & 3rd Monday at 6:30 pm, Highland Country Club

President

Rick Duft

13952 Kayser Road

Highland, IL 62249

C 618-531-9752

ricksduft@gmail.com

Secretary

Kevin B Hemann

6 Birdie Ln

Highland, IL 62249

C 618-977-7526

H 618-654-5671

kevinh@highlandmachine.com

Treasurer

William J Wagner

36 Willow Creek

Highland, IL 62249

C 618-401-0681

H 618-651-1322

wwagner6@charter.net

Illinois Junior Optimist International (JOI) Clubs

Zone	Club#	Club Name	Chartered
2	B2232	Rock Falls High School Junior Optimist Sponsored by: Rock Falls	11/21/2012
2	C0263	JOOI Alpha of Sterling Sponsored by: Sterling	9/16/2015
4	B2222	IVC High School JOOI Club Sponsored by: Chillicothe	10/1/2013
6	A1219	Douglas School Sponsored by: Belleville	2/9/1993
6	A1411	Franklin School Sponsored by: Belleville Westside	1/2/1997
6	A1458	Westhaven Elem Junior Optimist Club Sponsored by: Belleville	4/15/1998
6	A1567	Roosevelt School Junior Optimist Club Sponsored by: Belleville	12/6/2000
6	B1582	Belleville East Lancers Sponsored by: Belleville	3/8/1996
8	B2127	Highland High School Junior Optimist Sponsored by: Highland	9/30/2009

Illinois District Policies

Adopted 2011 District Convention

Amended August 11, 2018

I. Policy Administration

- A. Implementation: It is the duty of the Governor and the Executive Committee to insure the implementation of these policies.
- B. Amendments:
 - 1. A Policy Review Committee shall be appointed by the Governor. This committee shall be comprised of at least five persons, to include the Governor-Elect, the Parliamentarian, and at least one past Governor.
 - 2. Proposed changes to the District Policies should be presented to this committee not later than 45 days prior to the District Convention and shall be voted upon for approval at the annual District Convention. If, however, proposed changes or amendments to proposed changes are introduced after the 45-day period, such changes shall require a 2/3 vote for approval.
- C. Distribution: Distribution of the Illinois District Policies shall be done annually as part of the Illinois District Directory.

II. District Administration

- A. Board of Directors
 - 1. Purpose: The Board of Directors functions as the main legislative body for the Illinois District.
 - 2. Membership: The Board of Directors is comprised of the following members:
 - a. Governor
 - b. Governor-Elect
 - c. Two immediate Past Governors
 - d. Lt. Governors
 - e. District Secretary-Treasurer
 - f. Assistant Governor(s)
 - g. Club Presidents
 - 3. Rights and Privileges: Only these members may make motions, debate and discuss motions on the floor, and vote at the general assembly of the quarterly district meetings. The presiding officer may recognize other members when a motion is not on the floor if he/she so desires but is not required to do so. However, at the District Convention all accredited delegates are afforded the same privileges as the Board of Directors. The District Board shall annually determine the District Depository and signatories.
 - 4. Meetings
 - a. A Board of Directors meeting shall be held in each quarter of the Optimist year. It is recommended that these meetings be

held not later than during the second month of each quarter, except that the first quarter meeting should be held in October. Zone meetings or combined Region/Zone meetings may replace the Second Quarter District Meeting as long as the Zones and/or Regions conduct training and business sessions during this quarter as authorized by the Governor.

- b. Arrangements for District Board meeting facilities and meals shall be made by a committee appointed by the Governor. Program and all arrangements are to have the approval of the Governor.
- c. Spouses and children are encouraged to attend these meetings. It is the responsibility of the host committee to arrange for spouses' and children's entertainment.
- d. The District would encourage Presidents of all clubs to attend District Meetings. However, should the President be unable to attend the Board of Directors meeting, an appointed delegate for that club would be allowed to speak and act as the President, in the conduct of the business coming before the Board of Directors, providing the delegate produces written proof of his/her appointment to the District Secretary-Treasurer.

B. Executive Committee

- 1. Purpose. The Executive Committee serves as the main advisory/administrative body of the Illinois District.
- 2. Membership. The Executive Committee is comprised of the following members:
 - a. Governor
 - b. Governor-Elect
 - c. Two immediate Past Governors
 - d. Lt. Governors
 - e. District Secretary-Treasurer
 - f. Assistant Governor(s)
- 3. Rights and Privileges. The District is in support of open meetings for the Executive Committee. However, only members of the Executive Committee may make motions, debate and discuss motions on the floor, and vote. This does not prevent the Executive Committee from receiving verbal or written reports from individuals or committees at their request. The Executive Committee shall fill any vacancies in any office in the District.
- 4. Meetings. A minimum of four (4) Executive Committee meetings shall be held during the Optimist year. It is recommended that they be held immediately prior to the District Board meeting. If the Zone and/or Region option is chosen by the Governor for the second quarter, a teleconference with at least 51 percent of the

Executive Committee on line may replace the Second Quarter Executive Committee meeting.

C. Appointed Positions

1. Assistant Governors. The Assistant Governor(s) may be appointed for one year by the Governor-Designate, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee.
2. A District Secretary-Treasurer shall be appointed annually by the Governor-Designate, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee. He/she shall have full voting rights on the Board of Directors and Executive Committee. The District Secretary-Treasurer shall not serve more than three consecutive years.
3. The Sergeant-at-Arms and Parliamentarian are appointed members of both the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors. However, they serve only in an advisory capacity. They may not make or vote on motions on the floor.
4. The Governor shall appoint all current committee chairs and may call for quarterly meetings.

III. District Convention

- A. Annual Convention. A convention of the clubs of the District should be held annually during the month of August, but no later than September 30, and shall be a three (3) day convention beginning on Friday and ending on Sunday.
- B. Convention Program. The convention shall embody the following features:
 1. A Lieutenant Governors-Elect conference.
 2. A quarterly Executive Committee meeting and a meeting of the Board of Directors.
 3. A "Club Administrative Conference" attended by newly-elected club and District officers. Club and District committee members are also encouraged to attend.
 4. The election of Governor-elect for the coming year shall be held on Saturday.
 5. A Governor's Banquet and Installation of Officers shall be held on Saturday night with the International Representative as speaker.
 6. An "Old Timers Breakfast", which may be held on Sunday morning.
 7. The program shall have the approval of the Governor prior to printing.
 8. A Memorial Service, which may be held on Sunday morning, should be held for those members who have died during the prior year.
- C. Convention Administration. The convention is the District Convention. The Governor-Elect is chairperson of the convention. It shall be planned and supervised by the Convention Committee, the Governor,

and the Governor-Elect.

D. Proposed Convention Rules

1. The convention shall be composed of delegates as set forth in the International Bylaws Article VII, Section 4.
2. To be accredited by the Credentials Committee and eligible to vote on convention business, delegates must have registered at the convention, paid the registration fee, and produce such credentials as may be required by the Board of Directors.
3. Each club is entitled to one vote for each 10 members or major fraction thereof (6 or more).
4. On a voice vote or hand vote each club may use their allowed quota of votes but only with those accredited delegates present. Example – if your club is allowed 5 votes but only has 3 members present then you only get 3 votes.
5. On a written or paper vote the rule is different. Each club that has a registered delegate present shall be allowed their quota of votes without having their full quota of delegates present. Clubs may split their votes but votes must be a whole number. Each club shall select a chairperson to tally the results and report the same.
6. The Credentials Committee shall report at the first session thereof and periodically thereafter or when directed to do so.
7. The program as printed shall be the official program of the convention.
8. Following the report of the Candidate Qualifications Committee, the Governor-Elect shall call for other nominations from the floor and then call for closing of nominations.
9. Following the report of the Candidate Qualifications Committee, there may be nominating speeches on behalf of all candidates.
10. A nominating speech, seconding speech, and candidate's response shall not exceed a total of twelve minutes for each candidate.
11. All voting shall be by voice, hand, or rising vote, at the discretion of the chairperson unless a ballot or roll call vote is ordered by a majority vote of the accredited delegates. In the event a vote by ballot is ordered, the chairperson shall appoint a committee of tellers and name its chairperson. If the balloting has been conducted for the purpose of electing an officer, the chairperson shall announce the name of the winner only and then entertain a motion to destroy the ballots.
12. No accredited delegate shall be entitled to the floor unless he rises, addresses the presiding officer, and gives his name and club affiliation.
13. Debate shall be limited to five minutes a speaker. No accredited delegate shall speak a second time to the same question at the

sitting if another accredited delegate who has not spoken thereon rises and asks for the floor.

14. No accredited delegate shall speak more than twice on the same question if anyone objects.
15. Main motions shall be put in writing when the chairperson directs.
16. The chairperson shall entertain no motion unless seconded and shall not be open to debate or amendment before the chairperson has repeated it.
17. The vote on a question, once commenced, shall not be interrupted except to ask that the chairperson restate the question.
18. An accredited delegate may change his vote from one side to the other provided he rises and asks for the floor promptly and before the chairperson declares the result final.
19. No more than two (one primary, one secondary) amendments to any question shall be pending at one time, but after disposal of one or both of them, other amendments may be proposed.
20. The convention may, to expedite the handling of business, limit as it chooses the time or the number of speakers for each side on any question or the total time for debate, by a two-thirds vote.
21. The chairperson of committees may make partial reports during lull periods of the convention unless otherwise ordered.
22. These convention rules shall be adopted by majority vote, but they may be suspended, rescinded, or amended after their adoption by a two-thirds vote.
23. The rules as adopted for the current convention shall be the proposed rules for the convention in the following year.
24. In the absence of a specific convention rule or a specific printed Optimist International Bylaw, ROBERTS RULES OF ORDER shall govern the deliberation of this convention.

E. Elections

1. Elections shall be held in accordance with Optimist International rules governing same.
2. In the event of nominations from the floor for Governor-Elect, there shall be a fifteen (15) minute recess in which time the Candidate Qualifications Committee shall determine the candidate(s) eligibility.
3. To be eligible to be elected as Governor-Elect, a person must be a member in good standing and have served a full term as Club President. The Governor-Elect automatically becomes Governor on October 1 the year following their term as Governor-Elect.

- F. Registration. All District officers, club officers, and members are required to register on the official form supplied by the District and pay the registration fee for all District Board of Directors meetings and

the convention. All registered persons shall check in personally at the meeting and official attendance records will be made from these check-in forms.

IV. Finances

A. Finance Committee

1. The Finance Committee shall present to the first quarter District Board of Directors meeting a proposed budget for approval.
2. The Finance Committee may adjust items within the framework of the budget to suit the needs of the District, so long as the total budget is not altered or major categories appreciably changed.
3. The Finance Committee shall include in each annual budget a reserve in the amount of \$3500. This reserve shall be restricted to transfer and use by the incoming administration for expenses chargeable to the next fiscal year. Moneys will be available for transfer not later than the annual District Convention.
4. The Finance Committee shall review the adequacy of the Illinois District dues annually and report their findings and recommendation at the third quarter Board of Directors meeting.
5. The Finance Committee shall meet quarterly to review the status of current District finances and budgets.
6. An annual review of the prior fiscal year shall be given to the District Board of Directors by December 31.

B. Expenses

1. Budgeted monies for Governor, Governor-Elect, Governor-Designate, Assistant Governors, Lieutenant Governors, Committee Chairs, Parliamentarian, Sergeant at Arms, and Secretary-Treasurer are to be paid upon submitting expense vouchers with the necessary receipts.
2. District Conference(s) and Convention
 - a. Eligibility: Governor, Governor-Elect, Governor-Designate, Assistant Governors, Lieutenant Governors, Committee Chairs, Parliamentarian, Sergeant at Arms, and Secretary-Treasurer.
 - b. Mileage: Mileage will be reimbursed at the rate of 28 cents per mile.
 - c. Lodging: Eligible attendees will be reimbursed for one night of lodging for Conferences and the Convention. A maximum of two nights lodging is allowed if the attendee is required to travel more than 100 miles each way.
 - d. Meals: Only lunch and dinner served at the Conferences or Convention will be reimbursed.
 - e. Registration: Registration fees for the Conferences and Convention will be reimbursed.
 - f. Dual Office: If a person holds more than one eligible office

(i.e., Lt. Governor and Committee Chair) he/she may be reimbursed for only one position.

3. Monies allocated to the Governor, Secretary-Treasurer, Governor-Elect, and Secretary-Treasurer-Designate as expenses for the International Convention may be paid prior to the Convention date, upon approval of the Governor. Lieutenant Governors-Elect will be paid upon completion of Lieutenant Governor required training at the International Convention.
4. Lieutenant Governors and District chairpersons will receive budgeted monies at the discretion of the Governor, with the guidance of the Finance Committee and the District Secretary-Treasurer, upon submitting proper expense vouchers, substantiating the completion of the various requirements of their duties.

C. District Dues

1. District dues will be billed to each club quarterly, using membership counts from September 30, December 31, March 31, and June 30. The amount billed will be one-quarter of the annual District dues, as authorized by the District Board of Directors and approved by the Optimist International Board of Directors.
2. District dues will be added to the Optimist International Club Invoices and delivered to clubs following the Optimist International procedures in place for Club Invoices.
3. Clubs will remit their District dues payments along with their club dues to Optimist International.

D. District Secretary-Treasurer

1. The current District Secretary-Treasurer shall maintain minutes and District financial records for the current year and the past five years.

V. International President's Visit

- A. The International President will be invited to officially visit this District every other year. All clubs are encouraged to invite him/her to a special club meeting at any time.
- B. Arrangements for facilities and meals required for the International President's visit to a club or the District shall be made by the host club of the visit, under the direction of the Governor, and shall follow procedures as outlined in the booklet "How to Be a Good Host", available through Optimist International.

VI. Publications

A. District Directory

1. The Illinois District Directory, containing the names, addresses, and phone numbers of club, District, and international officers, District committee chairpersons, a list of past governors of the District, a list of any past international officer presently a member

of an Illinois Optimist club, District Policies, and the dates and locations of all District meetings and conferences of the administrative year, is a record that should be held in trust.

2. Its use for commercial or solicitation purposes shall be denied to all. The District may, however, sell advertising space in the District Directory, providing the District has received prior permission from Optimist International.
 3. The complete membership mailing list shall be used exclusively for the promotion of Optimism in the state of Illinois and shall be denied to all for commercial solicitation, promoting a candidate for office other than an Optimist office, and club solicitation. Exceptions will be granted for charter parties, club anniversaries, etc., at the discretion of the Governor.
 4. Distribution of the Illinois District Directory shall be made to all District Board members, District committee chairpersons, Past Governors, club secretary-treasurers, and others as approved by the Governor.
- B. District Bulletin
1. The "Land of Lincoln" bulletin shall be published electronically at least once each quarter.
 2. The editor shall be the District Communications/Bulletin Chairperson.
 3. Closing date for submissions of articles shall be sixty (60) days prior to dates of each District Board meeting and the District Convention.
 4. All clubs are encouraged to submit articles and pictures for each publication to the editor prior to the closing dates.
 5. Electronic copies of the bulletin will be made available to the general membership through the District website.
 6. Lt. Governors, club presidents, and District committee chairs shall receive an electronic copy of the bulletin, provided their email address is on file.
 7. The Lt. Governors should assist the clubs within their zones in setting up electronic communications.

VII. Organization

A. Clubs

1. It is encouraged that all clubs impress upon candidates for club offices that their attendance at all District Board meetings, zone meetings, and the District Convention is of prime importance.
2. It is the duty and responsibility of the club president, as a member of the District Board of Directors, and the club secretary-treasurer to be in attendance at all District Board meetings and the Convention. It is strongly emphasized and recommended that provisions be made in the club budget for defraying the cost of

attending said meetings.

3. It is recommended that clubs institute an indoctrinating program for incoming officers in order to acquaint them with their duties and to insure a smooth transition to the new administration.
4. It is emphasized that new members be assimilated as soon as possible after induction so they feel they are an active part of the club.
5. Each club shall be incorporated as a non-profit organization.
6. Attendance by club members at Charter Presentation, International President's Visit, and other meetings of a District nature is encouraged.
7. Clubs are requested to actively participate in international programs such as Youth Appreciation Week, Essay and Oratorical Contests, Optimist International Junior Golf Championships, as well as community service, Respect for Law, etc.
8. Host clubs for District officers' visits should follow the procedures outlined in "How to Be a Good Host", furnished by Optimist International.
9. All Optimists handling club funds must be bonded.
10. Clubs are urged to refrain from lending their good name to any fund-raising campaign, project, or activity unless members are actively participating in or conducting such a program.
11. Individuals and clubs shall not offer merchandise for sale, conduct raffles, or engage in any fund-raising activity at any zone or District meeting, nor at the International Convention.

B. Zones

1. Pursuant to the Optimist International Bylaws, the number and boundaries of zones for any administrative year, if subject to revision, shall be determined by the Board of Directors prior to its meeting held in the third quarter of the preceding year to accommodate selection of Lieutenant Governors to serve during the next administrative year.
2. All proposals for realignment of zone boundaries shall be submitted to the Governor not less than 30 days prior to said meeting. No zone should be created with fewer than four (4) clubs.
3. New clubs shall automatically be assigned to the zones of their sponsoring clubs. On October 2, new clubs will be assigned to the zones in which they are geographically located and services thereto shall be the responsibility of the Lieutenant Governor of such zone.
4. Lieutenant Governors are to be elected during the third quarter District meeting from a slate presented by the Governor-Elect or from open nominations from the floor. If there is no candidate

from a given zone, the office shall be declared vacant. An appointment may be made at a later time, pending the approval of the Executive Committee.

5. Lieutenant Governors shall not be eligible to succeed themselves through election. In the case of emergency, they may be appointed to fill a vacancy with the approval of the Executive Committee. In any case, they should not serve more than two consecutive terms in succession.

VIII. Contests

A. Communication Contest for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (CCDHH)

1. The Communication Contest for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (CCDHH) in the Illinois District will be conducted in accordance with the official rules of the contest as published by Optimist International.
 - a. Contest awards at the club, zone, and district levels will be awarded as detailed in the official rules.
2. The district contest will be held at the third quarter conference. The district contest will be conducted under the direction of the District Chair, who is appointed by the Governor. The District Chair will also be responsible for coordinating club and zone contest deadlines and guidelines.
3. A single entry fee must be paid to cover the cost for each contestant participating at the zone contest (if applicable) and district contest. The amount of the entry fee will be established by the District Chair and approved by the Governor. The contestant's sponsoring club will pay the entry fee.
4. The sponsoring club is responsible for the following costs for their contestant:
 - a. Entry fee as detailed above
 - b. Transportation for the contestant to all contests beyond the club contest
 - c. Lodging for the contestant, if required, for all contests beyond the club contest
5. The District is responsible for the following costs:
 - a. Lunch for each district contestant at the District Conference
 - b. Half of the lunch cost for up to three guests for each district contestant
 - c. Plaques for winners at the zone and district levels

B. Essay Contest

1. The Essay Contest in the Illinois District will be conducted in accordance with the official rules of the contest as published by Optimist International.
 - a. Contest awards at the club, zone, and district levels will be awarded as detailed in the official rules.

2. Club Essay Contests will be conducted during the first quarter of the Optimist year under the direction of each club's chairperson.
3. District judging of the Essay Contest will be conducted under the direction of the District Chair, who is appointed by the Governor.
4. An entry fee must be paid to cover the cost for each contestant participating in the district Essay Contest. The amount of the entry fee will be established by the District Chair and approved by the Governor. The contestant's sponsoring club will pay the entry fee.
5. The winner of the district Essay Contest will be invited to attend the third quarter district conference to read the winning essay.
6. The sponsoring club is responsible for the following costs for their contestant:
 - a. Entry fee as detailed above
 - b. Transportation for the contestant to the District Conference
 - c. Lodging for the contestant, if required, for the District Conference
7. The District is responsible for the following costs:
 - a. Lunch for the district winner at the District Conference
 - b. Half of the lunch cost for up to three guests for the district winner
 - c. Plaque for the winner
- C. Optimist International Junior Golf Championship (OIJGC)
 1. The district Optimist International Junior Golf Championship shall be held in the month of June in enough time to allow for necessary arrangements to send one (1) boy and one (1) girl winner to the Optimist International Junior Golf Championship tournament in July. The district tournament is to be under the direct supervision of the district OIJGC chairperson and conducted according to the rules and/or guidelines of Optimist International Junior Golf Championship and the PGA. The district Board of Directors will approve one entry fee per contestant that will be paid for each entrant. The district will pay the cost of conducting the district tournament and the expense of sending one (1) boy and one (1) girl winner to the international OIJGC tournament. All other expenses to and from the district tournament shall be borne by the individual participant of the sponsoring clubs.
 2. An annual entry fee schedule shall be determined by the district Executive Committee upon the recommendation of the district OIJGC chairperson.
- D. Oratorical Contest
 1. The Oratorical Contest in the Illinois District will be conducted in accordance with the official rules of the contest as published by Optimist International.
 2. The district Oratorical Contest will be held at the third quarter

- conference. The district contest will be conducted under the direction of the District Chair, who is appointed by the Governor. The District Chair will also be responsible for coordinating club, zone, and regional contest deadlines and guidelines.
3. A single entry fee must be paid to cover the cost for each contestant advancing to a contest beyond the club contest (zone, regional, or district). The amount of the entry fee will be established by the District Executive Committee, based on the recommendation of the District Oratorical Chair. The contestant's sponsoring club will pay the entry fee.
 4. The sponsoring club is responsible for the following costs for their contestant:
 - a. Entry fee as detailed above
 - b. Transportation for the contestant to all contests beyond the club contest
 - c. Lodging for the contestant, if required, for all contests within the district beyond the club contest
 5. The District is responsible for the following costs:
 - a. Lunch for each district contestant at the district conference
 - b. Half of the lunch cost for up to three guests for each district contestant
 - c. Prizes for winners as defined in the official rules of the contest as published by Optimist International
 - d. Lodging and transportation costs for the district winner to the Optimist International World Championship
 6. Zone Contests. Zone Oratorical Contests are to be conducted by the assigned Lt. Governor or zone chairperson, under the supervision of the District Oratorical Chair.
 7. Regional Contests. The region's Assistant Governor or a chairperson appointed by the Governor, under the supervision of the District Oratorical Chair, shall conduct the regional Oratorical Contest. Regional Oratorical Contests shall be held with a nearly equal number of zones in each region and simultaneously or as nearly so as practical. Regional participation certificates will be presented to all participants. The District Oratorical Chair shall determine the number of regional contests to be held, following the rules as published by Optimist International.
 - a. If a two-region system is selected, the top two contestants from each region will advance to the District Oratorical Contest, without determining a regional winner.
 - b. If a three-region system is selected, the top contestant from each region will advance to the District Oratorical Contest.
 8. District Contests. The contest winners will be awarded scholarships by the Optimist International Foundation in

accordance with the Optimist International rules. The scholarships awarded to district winners will be \$2500 for first place, \$1500 for second place, and \$1000 for third place.

E. Poster Contest

1. The District Poster Contest will be held at the third quarter district conference. The district contest will be conducted under the direction of the District Poster Chair, who is appointed by the Governor.
2. The poster contest will be open to fourth, fifth, and sixth grade students. There shall be boys' and girls' divisions.
3. Each club may submit posters from one boy winner and one girl winner to the district finals.
4. Monetary awards, to be determined by the Governor, shall be given to first, second, and third place winners for each division.
5. Posters shall be horizontal, 22" x 14" in size.
6. Posters shall include only original artwork. No computer-generated or printed pictures or wording are allowed.
7. The back of the poster should contain the following information: grade, gender, teacher's name, student's full name, address, and phone number.
8. An entry fee, to be determined by the Governor and District Poster Chair, must accompany each entry.

Illinois District History and Past Governors

The first Optimist club is recorded to have been formed in Buffalo, New York in 1916. At that same time clubs were also forming in Indianapolis, Indiana, and Syracuse and Rochester, New York, among other places.

In May of 1917 the first conference of these Optimist clubs was held at the national headquarters in Indianapolis. Thirteen (13) clubs attended that conference, and among those thirteen were the Optimist Clubs of Chicago, Peoria, and Springfield, Illinois.

In 1919 the first convention was held in Louisville, Kentucky, and on June 19th the association of clubs that is known today as Optimist International was formed. In 1922, the convention approved the first official emblem of Optimist International and adopted the “Optimist Creed” as our organization’s official creed.

We can trace the roots of the Illinois District to the beginning in 1917. From 1919 through 1964, clubs in Illinois were part of many separate sections and districts (districts 8, 12, 17, and 23). A lot of information has been lost in history, though the Optimist International staff has been able to provide some information. Many past governors are not listed below simply because the information has been lost.

In 1964 our clubs became members of two new and distinct districts as Optimist International began to use names for districts rather than just numbers. Our clubs became part of either the Northern Illinois District or the Central Southern Illinois District.

In 1970 the two separate districts were combined to unite all the clubs in the state into one Optimist District—the Illinois District. This district retained the identification number of 12.

Our rich history can be traced by the members who have served as Governor of our district or its predecessors. Three of our past Governors are counted among those who have served as President of Optimist International: James W. Chilton, Harlington Wood, and Gene Sternberg.

Listed below are our governors for all years the information is available.
Signs behind names indicate:

#	Distinguished Governor	*	International Vice President
+	International President	(-	International Vice Pres-Elect
\<	International Director		

Year	Governor		District	Club
1919-20	J.L. Schoen		Sect. 2	Chicago
1919-20	W.K. Robertson		Sect. 6	Springfield
1920-21	O.L. Prohaska		Sect. 2	Chicago
1920-21	E.E. Hagler		Sect. 6	Springfield
1922-23	James W. Chilton	+	12	St. Louis, MO
1923-24	Dr. W.A. Henckle		8	Peoria
1924-25	Harlington Wood		8	Springfield
1925-26	Harlington Wood		8	Springfield
1926-27	Harlington Wood	+	8	Springfield
1927-28	Paul Farthing		8	East St. Louis
1928-29	Paul Farthing	*	8	East St. Louis
1929-30	Frank Scharlott		8	St. Louis, MO
1930-31	Lawrence C. Horton		12	Oak Park
1931-32	H. Edward Reeves		12	Chicago
1932-33	Merritt M. Ramstead		12	Chicago
1933-34	Merritt M. Ramstead		12	Chicago
1934-35	A.C. Pearson Jr.		12	Wilmette
1935-36	Harry M. Weeks		12	Gary, IN
1936-37	Emile O. Bloche		12	Oak Park
1937-38	Emile O. Bloche	*	12	Oak Park
1938-39	Melvin O. Ferch		12	Hammond, IN
1939-40	Albert O. Olson		12	Chicago
1940-41	Charles W. Apley		12	Evanston
1941-42	George W. Reinke		12	Chicago (Austin)
1942-43	Charles W. Thompkins		12	Hammond, IN
1943-44	Henry R. Freitag		12	Rock Island
1944-45	E. Jay Wilttrout		12	Gary, IN
1945-45	Vaughn V. Moore		12	Chicago
1946-47	Ralph Stephenson		12	Moline
1947-48	Elmer P. Langguth		12	Oak Park
1948-49	LaVerne Burche		12	Rock Island
1948-49	William A. Hammitt		23	Normal
1949-50	Herbert C. Berggrun		12	Harvey
1949-50	Van W. Haverton		23	Peoria
1950-51	James F. Bates		12	Kewanee

Year	Governor	District	Club
1950-51	Clarence C. Hoogland	23	Springfield
1951-52	Fred W. Hauser	12	Chicago
1951-52	Richard W. Velde	23	Havana
1952-53	Loyle Tharp	12	Moline
1952-53	Claude J. Hesh	23	Macomb
1953-54	Robert E. Blomquist	12	Harvey
1953-54	Arthur Roseman	8	Granite City
1954-55	Paul A. Knabe	12	Rock Falls
1954-55	Charles E. Tyrell	23	Peoria
1955-56	Vincent Johnson	12	Rockford
1955-56	Arthur Scheele	23	Springfield
1956-57	Alfred G. Waffle	\< 12	Moline
1956-57	Rev. Oscar Bohman	23	Canton
1957-58	Gene Sternberg	* + 8	Granite City
1957-58	Henry S. Pettett	12	Evanston
1957-58	Kirby R Clugsten	23	Peoria
1958-59	Norman T. Peterson	12	Des Plaines
1958-59	Dr. R.B. Sweetland	23	Decatur
1959-60	William Marlises	12	Rock Island
1959-60	John J. Blake	23	Springfield
1960-61	Henry R. Weller	12	Evanston
1960-61	Gene Hermann	23	Havana
1961-62	Francis Ortman	12	Rock Island
1961-62	Henry J. Wittlich	23	Belleville
1962-63	Earl N. Simpson	12	Aurora
1962-63	Fred W. Hendricks	23	Farmersville
1963-64	Joseph W. Folz	12	Des Plaines
1963-64	Alford O. Leffler	* 23	Mt. Vernon
1964-65	Robert D. Winter	Northern	Rock Island
1964-65	Elmer Von Behren	# Central/Southern	Springfield
1965-66	Kelly Wilkins	Northern	Loves Park
1965-66	Elmer C. Ruehl	Central/Southern	Belleville
1966-67	Mark Brooks Jr.	* Northern	Oak Park
1966-67	Ralph Kreiling	Central/Southern	Forest City
1967-68	Kenneth A. Kehe	Northern	Des Plaines
1967-68	Charles Linquist	Central/Southern	Springfield
1968-69	W. Standley Fuller	Northern	Moline
1968-69	R.W. Christiansen	Central/Southern	Fairview Heights
1969-70	Howard Rockafellow	Northern	Geneva
1969-70	Warren D. Nichols	Central/Southern	East Peoria
1970-71	Jack Leady	Illinois (12)	Fairview Heights
1971-72	Joseph W. Folz	Illinois (12)	Des Plaines
1972-73	Don Calvert	Illinois (12)	DuQuoin

Year	Governor	District	Club
1973-74	Robert F. James	Illinois (12)	Aurora
1974-75	Wilney Braddy	Illinois (12)	Mt. Vernon
1975-76	James Earnes	Illinois (12)	Deerfield
1976-77	Vance Wilson	Illinois (12)	Belleville
1977-78	S. Harold Roberts	Illinois (12)	Alton
1978-79	Chester M. Grafft	Illinois (12)	Princeton
1979-80	William Fitzpatrick	Illinois (12)	Oak Park
1980-81	Ralph Wrench	Illinois (12)	Normal
1981-82	Glenn Sparesus	# *	Des Plaines
1982-83	Frank O. Brutcher	Illinois (12)	Princeton
1983-84	Ronald A. Grim	Illinois (12)	Mason City
1984-85	Rodney C. Senn	Illinois (12)	Oswegoland
1985-86	Robert R. Gaebel	Illinois (12)	Quincy
1986-87	William Ambuehl	Illinois (12)	Highland
1987-88	Donald Nicholas	Illinois (12)	Peoria
1988-89	Normal Hall	Illinois (12)	Granite City
1989-90	Scotty Canale	#	Taylorville
1990-91	Thomas Croxton	Illinois (12)	Alton
1991-92	Thomas Croxton	Illinois (12)	Alton
1992-93	Richard Bentley	Illinois (12)	Aurora
1993-94	Gary Kessinger	Illinois (12)	Highland
1994-95	Burton Wikgren	Illinois (12)	Belleville
1995-96	Frank Duke	# *	Belleville
1996-97	Milton Wiggers	Illinois (12)	Springfield
1997-98	Howard Dewell	Illinois (12)	Quincy
1998-99	Al Hippensteel	Illinois (12)	Oak Park
1999-00	Dr. Jack Cluney	Illinois (12)	Decatur
2000-01	Lloyd P. Kuehn, Jr.	Illinois (12)	Glenview
2001-02	Debra Castiglia	Illinois (12)	Decatur
2002-03	Carmett "Corky" Helms	Illinois (12)	Belleville
2003-04	Kathryn Dewell	Illinois (12)	Quincy
2004-05	Dr. Jerry Wolf	Illinois (12)	Vandalia
2005-06	Michael Koenig	Illinois (12)	Belleville
2006-07	Jerry Emery	Illinois (12)	Oswego
2007-08	Jerry Emery	Illinois (12)	Oswego
2008-09	Stan Knecht	Illinois (12)	Centralia
2009-10	Chris Ladner	Illinois (12)	Des Plaines
2010-11	Martin C. Schmidt	Illinois (12)	Silvis
2011-12	Barry Montague	Illinois (12)	Sterling
2012-13	Roger Simonson	Illinois (12)	Deerfield
2013-14	Richard Volker	Illinois (12)	Princeton
2014-15	Bill West	Illinois (12)	St. David
2015-16	Steve Turner	Illinois (12)	Taylorville

Year	Governor	District	Club
2016-17	Ruth Del Re	Illinois (12)	Des Plaines
2017-18	John Del Re	Illinois (12)	Des Plaines

New Member Induction and Pledge

Ladies and Gentlemen: This occasion marks the beginning of your opportunity for participating, through fellowship and friendship, in the activities of your Club on behalf of your community. Through your personal service as an Optimist you will have the opportunity to help re-pay, in various ways, the debt we all owe our community for the privilege of enjoying its many benefits. You will learn the Optimist Creed and its significance, a genuine challenge to the life of all men and women. You will be inspired by our slogan, "Friend of Youth".

In all these things we seek to make our indelible mark on the life, progress and welfare of our communities, our nation and our peoples. But only by your regular attendance at meetings and active participation in your Club's activities can you be rewarded with a fuller life and the self-satisfaction that comes to each of us as we serve our community and its youth.

We therefore ask, as we admit you to the fellowship of Optimism, if you will join our company, our friendship and our fellowship, in an effort to strive toward these objectives. If you do, please answer, "I DO".

I _____ do hereby pledge / that I will do my best /at all times / to live by the spirit of the Optimist Creed / and I will also give of my time /and talents / as generously as possible / to support the activities / of my Club, /my District /and Optimist International.

Now, being aware of the responsibilities, opportunities and privileges available to you as a member, on behalf of the officers and members of the Sponsor Club, the Illinois District and Optimist International, I am happy to offer you my hand of Optimist Friendship. We are happy to have you as a member.

Your President _____ will present you with your new member kit and your membership pin. President _____ will then review the expectations of each new member joining our Optimist Club.

(If the President is conducting the Induction, the new member's sponsor could present the new member kit and their membership pin.)

The Optimist Creed

Promise yourself...

- ♦ To be so strong that nothing can disturb your peace of mind.
- ♦ To talk health, happiness and prosperity to every person you meet.
- ♦ To make all your friends feel that there is something in them.
- ♦ To look at the sunny side of everything and make your optimism come true.
- ♦ To think only of the best, to work only for the best, and to expect only the best.
- ♦ To be just as enthusiastic about the success of others as you are about your own.
- ♦ To forget the mistakes of the past and press on to the greater achievements of the future.
- ♦ To wear a cheerful countenance at all times and give every living creature you meet a smile.
- ♦ To give so much time to the improvement of yourself that you have no time to criticize others.
- ♦ To be too large for worry, too noble for anger, too strong for fear, and too happy to permit the presence of trouble.